

Washington State Patrol Media Release

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*****For Immediate Release*****

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WSP Seeking Help Locating Hit and Run Driver

On March 15, 2006, at approximately 5:47 AM, the morning commute was slowed by two separate collisions that occurred on southbound I-5 mid-span of the Interstate Bridge.

WSP troopers arrived to find the left and center lanes blocked by three cars and a semi truck and trailer.

The investigation revealed the first collision involved a 1990 Peterbuilt semi truck pulling a trailer was traveling in the center lane on southbound I-5 on the mid-span of the Interstate Bridge when it attempted to move to the right lane. The Peterbuilt truck was driven by Richard E. Archie, a 65 year old resident of Spanaway, Washington. Archie didn't see a 1997 Pontiac Grand-Am that was driven by Bernita K. Kantner, a 54 year old resident of Vancouver, which was traveling in the right lane beside Archie. The Peterbuilt struck the Pontiac causing it to spin around crossing in front of the Peterbuilt where it was struck a second time. The Pontiac came to rest blocking the left lane when the Peterbuilt's trailer wheel drove up on top of the Pontiac's right side.

Kantner sustained minor neck and back injuries from the collision and was transported by AMR to SWWMC.

Archie wasn't injured in the collision and will be receiving a citation for the unsafe lane change.

A second collision occurred in the backup of traffic from the first collision. A 2003 Toyota Camry driven by Susan M. How, a 33 year old resident of Vancouver and a 2003 Ford Taurus driven by Raymond D. Brooks, a 54 year old resident of Battle Ground stopped in the left lane on southbound I-5. A silver Lincoln Navigator following Brooks was unable to stop, rear-ending Brooks' Ford and forcing it into How's Toyota.

No one was injured in the second collision, but the Lincoln failed to stop continuing southbound on I-5.

In Washington State any person involved in a collision is required to stop and check for injuries. Additionally, Washington law requires drivers in a collision to exchange driver's, vehicle and insurance information.

The Washington State Patrol is asking anyone who may have witnessed the collision involving the fleeing Lincoln Navigator or has information reference the Navigator to call Trooper Matt Hughes at (360) 449-7950.

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